The County Commissioners of Kent County

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February 10, 2020

The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr. Room 420, James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 792 / House Bill 777 – Kent County Alcohol Act 2020

Dear Senator Hershey:

On behalf of the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland this letter serves as full support for Senate Bill 792. It is the Board's intention to update Kent County's Alcoholic Beverage Regulations by altering the days and hours of sale under a Class B wine shop and lounge license; establish a refillable container permit for draft beer to certain license holders; and create a Class C multiple event beer, wine, and liquor license for volunteer fire companies.

The expansion of days and hours of sale for a wine shop and lounge license will create an opportunity for niche businesses to stay competitive. The added provision to permit refillable containers in Kent County will assist local businesses operate in the same manner as neighboring counties by offering equal retail opportunities. A multiple event license will support local volunteer fire companies by expanding events, thus increasing their ability to generate additional revenue.

Given the foregoing, the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 792.

Very truly yours,

Shelley L. Heller County Administrator

